

## SPECIFICATION

### MULTI SELECTIVE AXIS SPINAL FIXATION SYSTEM

This application is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 10/133,310, filed April 24, 2002, <sup>PAT 6,770,915</sup> the disclosure of which is expressly incorporated herein by reference.

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### FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates generally to apparatus and methods for treating spinal disorders, and more particularly to spinal fixation systems that may be secured between adjacent anchor screw assemblies, and methods for stabilizing, adjusting, or otherwise fixing adjacent vertebrae using such spinal fixation systems.

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### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Various systems and methods have been suggested for treating spinal disorders, such as degenerative discs, stenosis, trauma, scoliosis, kyphosis, or spondylolisthesis. For example, U.S.